

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:

Date: April 1, 2004

MICHAEL JOHN CULLEN and  
RALPH WAYNE CUNNINGHAM

Serial No. : 10/751,079

Filed : January 2, 2004

For : VEHICLE TRAJECTORY CONTROL SYSTEM

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir :

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98**

Applicants are submitting this Information Disclosure Statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98 to disclose to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office the patents, publications, applications, and/or other references listed on the enclosed, completed PTO-1449 form(s). The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or as an admission that the listed references are prior art for this application. Applicants respectfully request that the listed references be expressly considered during prosecution of the application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patents issuing therefrom.

**CONTENT OF DISCLOSURE**

This Information Disclosure Statement includes (1) 1 page of PTO-1449 forms, and (2) a legible copy of each foreign and non-patent reference, if any, listed on the form. However, because this application was filed on or after July 1, 2003, no

copies of U.S. patents or published U.S. patent applications are included.

#### FOREIGN-LANGUAGE REFERENCES

A concise explanation of the relevance of each listed reference not in the English language follows:

German Patent No. 3918254: This patent purports to disclose a method is described for preventing load cycle shocks due to abrupt changes of the accelerator pedal position in motor vehicles, especially passenger motor vehicles, which are equipped with an internal combustion engine (1), a transmission (5) and a clutch (3), arranged between the internal combustion engine and the transmission and controllable in respect of its transmittable torque. In order to prevent the load shocks when the accelerator pedal (12) is adjusted from an overrun position into a load position, it is proposed that the clutch (3) be automatically forced out of an engaged position assigned to the overrun position of the accelerator pedal, with a predefinable slip between the speed of the internal combustion engine (1, 2) and of the transmission input (4), in the engaging direction for the transmission of a continuously increasing torque. In the case of an adjustment of the accelerator pedal (12) from a load position into an overrun position on the other hand, it is proposed that the clutch (3) automatically be fully disengaged first before the internal combustion engine (1) changes from traction into overrun conditions and then actuated in the engaging direction again until a predefinable slip is attained between the speed of the internal combustion engine (1, 2) and that of the transmission input (4).

Japan Patent No. 03 288,056: This patent purports to disclose to prevent generation of judder by delaying lowering of corresponding line pressure at the time of detecting any sudden closing state of an accelerator by an accelerator sudden closing

state detecting means, thereby preventing the clutch transfer capacity from becoming lower than engine torque.

A control unit 43 reads throttle opening TH from a sensor 44, computes the rate of change DELTATH to time, and makes a comparison on whether the rate of change is smaller than the limit rate of change -alpha. In the case of  $DELTATH < -\alpha$ , this means the sudden closing time of a throttle valve, so that the control unit 43 computes the converter speed ratio gamma of a torque converter 3; and when the converter speed ratio gamma is smaller than the stall limit value beta, this means the stalling state, so that the control unit 43 performs line pressure lowering delay control for delaying the lowering of line pressure in order to prevent generation of judder.

**TIMING OF DISCLOSURE / STATEMENT / FEE INFORMATION**

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed either (1) within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d), or (2) within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 in an international application. Therefore, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no fee or statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is required.

Please charge any cost incurred in the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, along with any other costs, to Deposit Account No. 06-1510. If there are insufficient funds in this account, please charge the fees to Deposit Account No. 06-1505. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Please contact the undersigned with any questions or comments regarding this Information Disclosure Statement.

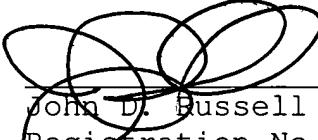
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on April 1, 2004.

  
Lauren Barberena

Respectfully submitted,

KOLISCH HARTWELL, P.C.



John D. Russell  
Registration No. 47,048  
Customer No. 36865  
520 S.W. Yamhill St, Suite 200  
Portland, Oregon 97204  
Telephone: (503) 224-6655  
Facsimile: (503) 295-6679  
Attorney for Applicant



Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

## TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

TRANSMITTAL FORM  (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number		10/751,079
	Filing Date		January 2, 2004
	First Named Inventor		Michael John Cullen
	Art Unit		
	Examiner Name		
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	6+	Attorney Docket Number	FGT 321CIP (81096420)

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Remarks</div>	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Form PTO 1449 Copies of Foreign References

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	John D. Russell, Reg. No. 47,048 Kolisch Hartwell P.C.
Signature	
Date	April 1, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING		
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.		
Typed or printed name	Lauren Barberena	
Signature		Date
	April 1, 2004	

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.



SHEET 1 OF 1

FORM PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION		DOCKET NUMBER FGT 321CIP		APPLICATION NUMBER 10/751,079			
		APPLICANT(S) Michael Cullen et al.					
		FILING DATE January 2, 2004		GROUP ART UNIT			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME		CLASS	SUB CLASS	FIL. DATE IF APPROP.
	4,468,987	9-4-84	Miller				
	4,481,844	11-13-84	Ironside et al				
	5,113,721	5-19-92	Polly				
	6,338,392	1-15-02	Schmitt				
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION YES	NO
	39 18254	12-21-89	DE			Abstract only	
	3 288056	12-18-91	JP			Abstract only	
	2 299 144	9-25-96	GB				
	2 313 425	11-26-97	GB				
	2 318 556	4-29-98	GB				
OTHER DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED				